

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Ulrich BARDOLATZY et al ATTY. DOC. NO.: P04,0398
SERIAL NO.: 10/518,179
FILED: December 15, 2004
INVENTION: "CONTROL PANEL FOR A PRINTER OR COPIER SYSTEM
WITH FRONT AND/OR REAR PROCESSING UNITS AND
INTEGRATED CONTROL PANEL IN A PRINTER SERVER"
(As Amended)

MAIL STOP PCT

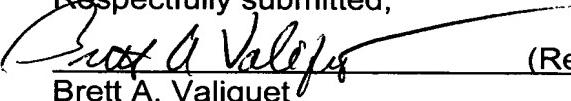
Commissioner for Patents,
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**SUBMITTAL OF TRANSLATION OF INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

SIR:

Please find attached an English Translation of the International Preliminary
Examination Report for the above-identified PCT application.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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DATE: June 14, 2005


BRETT A. VALIQUET

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/EP2003/011858

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 2002-1019 P	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/EP2003/011858	International filing date (day/month/year) 24 October 2003 (24.10.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 28 October 2002 (28.10.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G06F 3/12		
Applicant OCE PRINTING SYSTEM GMBH		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.
 This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).
These annexes consist of a total of 10 sheets.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 - I Basis of the report
 - II Priority
 - III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - IV Lack of unity of invention
 - V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - VI Certain documents cited
 - VII Certain defects in the international application
 - VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 11 May 2004 (11.05.2004)	Date of completion of this report 23 July 2004 (23.07.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP2003/011858

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- the international application as originally filed
 the description:

pages _____ 1-19 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____ , filed with the demand
 pages _____ , filed with the letter of _____

- the claims:

pages _____ , as originally filed
 pages _____ , as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
 pages _____ , filed with the demand
 pages _____ 1-34 _____, filed with the letter of _____

- the drawings:

pages _____ 1/10-10/10 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____ , filed with the demand
 pages _____ , filed with the letter of _____

- the sequence listing part of the description:

pages _____ , as originally filed
 pages _____ , filed with the demand
 pages _____ , filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
 the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
 the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
 The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
 The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP 03/11858

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-34	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-34	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-34	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

1. Following amendment of the claims the latter can be considered to have unity of invention within the meaning of PCT Rule 13.

The system according to claim 1 and the corresponding method according to claim 20 are defined, unlike claims 21 and 24, without mention of the data processing system controlled from the user interface but explicitly include the operator station, while the operator station according to claim 25 and the corresponding method of operation according to claim 34 also control a printer or copier and a processing unit connected thereto.

2. The present application addresses the problem of avoiding the separate control panels provided for individual components of the print or copy system and pre/postprocessing unit. The solution consists in enabling operations to be carried out in a single user interface of an operator station so that the user can concentrate on the operation at one point, as described in the independent claims.

None of the documents cited in the international

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORTInternational application No.
PCT/EP 03/11858

search report suggest the above-indicated problem of a common control panel. They describe only the known arrangement of printer or copier and processing units connected thereto. The latter are evident for example in US-A-5 805 950 but cannot be controlled. In EP-A-0 678 792 - see in particular the abstract, it is a matter of the type of input of copy data using different buttons. US-A-5 200 778 does not describe a printing system with pre/post-processing, and so the present problem of interest does not arise at all. The last-mentioned US document corresponds to the DE document discussed at the bottom of page 1 of the description.

For the reasons stated the subject matter of the independent claims involves novelty and an inventive step within the meaning of PCTR Article 33(2) and (3).

Print and copy systems and their operation obviously have industrial applicability within the meaning of PCT Article 33(4).

3. Minor defects in the claims and in the drawings:

In claim 14 the reference sign 14 (which designates the constituent printing unit) should be deleted.

In claim 33 "a second representation" is correct, as already stated in the "Invitation to Restrict..." of June 22, 2004.

In figure 6 the missing reference sign 80 should be entered for the function button, and in figure 8 the missing reference sign 94a for the display field.